

Honolulu Transit Symposium

November 13, 2007

Overview

Symposium Focus and Objective

To identify the primary success factors involved in implementing a major urban rail transit system, with focus on institutional structure, public and business involvement, and transit-oriented development.

Topic 1 – Institutional Arrangements: What are the most effective governmental structures for undertaking a major transit investment and managing the inherent risks of design, construction, operation and maintenance?

Topic 2 – Business and Community Involvement: What are the most effective actions that can be undertaken by the business community and citizens at-large to assure appropriate influence and support in the development of a major urban transit system?

Topic 3 – Transit-Oriented Development: What are the best ways for fixed guideway transit and urban development/redevelopment to complement one another in providing increasingly livable communities? What benefits have been realized by communities which have undertaken significant transit-oriented development?

Symposium Structure

The above topics will be discussed and debated through a series of panels focused on specific communities in North America that have recently developed and implemented new urban mass transit systems, or are in the process of developing new systems and service. The communities/agencies to be represented and key representatives are:

- *Los Angeles, California* (Gold Line and EXPO Line Construction Authorities; **Lead, Rick Thorpe**)
- *Salt Lake City, Utah* (Utah Transit Authority; **Lead, Mike Allegra**)
- *San Francisco, California* (SFMTA/MUNI; **Lead, Nat Ford**)
- *Vancouver, British Columbia* (Canada Line; **Lead, Jeff Hewitt**)

Two panel sessions in the morning will focus on the first two primary topics above, and an "open house" session in the afternoon will feature short presentations and Q&A sessions with groups of Symposium participants directly interfacing with each of the four communities and their representatives, with a specific emphasis on transit-oriented development.

Dr. Martin Wachs, formerly Director of the Institute of Transportation Studies at the University of California and currently Director of Transportation and Infrastructure Programs at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California will serve as moderator for the morning sessions in order to assure focus by the panelists and participants.

Continental breakfast and buffet lunch will be provided for all participants. We will be honored to have as breakfast speaker Mr. Michael Townes, incoming Chairman of the American Public Transportation Association and CEO of the Hampton Roads (Norfolk) Virginia Transit Authority. The luncheon speaker will be Mr. Wellington Webb, former mayor of Denver, Colorado and a key elected official involved in the creation of Denver's ambitious and successful rapid transit program.

In the "Open House" sessions, each city will have approximately 1000 ft² for TOD displays and presentation area. Honolulu will join as the fifth city in the "Open House" sessions.

Preliminary Symposium Format

Target attendees/invitees:

- Key local business and civic opinion leaders
- City/County of Honolulu transportation and planning staff
- Representatives of the design, construction and transit operations industries – local and international
- Interested citizens and business people
- Media/press

Time: 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Cost to attend: \$45.00 inclusive

Food and beverage: continental breakfast and buffet lunch; coffee, cold drinks and snacks available at breaks and during the afternoon open house sessions.

Preliminary Schedule

8:00 AM Registration

8:30 AM *Welcome:* Mayor Mufi Hanneman

8:45 AM *Remarks:* Michael Townes, Chairman APTA

9:15 AM *Introduction to Panels:* Dr. Martin Wachs

9:30 AM **Panel 1: Institutional Arrangements**

Delegation leader from each community/agency will provide an overview presentation of respective fixed guideway transit system and the governmental structure used to develop and operate the system. Q/A will follow.

10:45 AM	Networking Break
11:15 AM	<p>Panel 2: Business and Community Involvement</p> <p>A key local opinion leader from the business community in each city will discuss the critical role of business support and citizen involvement in the creation of the respective transit systems. Q/A will follow.</p>
12:30 PM	Buffet Lunch/Keynote Speaker (Wellington Webb)
2:30 PM	<p>Open House Sessions: Transit-Oriented Development</p> <p>Each city/community will be assigned a break-out area. One or two experts (ideally representing the public sector and private sector) will provide short and graphical presentations on the TOD activities ongoing and planned in each community. A 5- 10 minute presentation will be followed by 15 – 20 minutes for Q/A and discussions in the breakout areas. The Symposium participants will “circulate” through each of the five breakout areas to provide each an opportunity to learn about activities undertaken in each of the communities. The presenters will repeat the presentations five times in order to allow all participants an opportunity for interface.</p>
5:00 PM	Adjourn
5:30-7:30 PM	Special VIP reception at Aaron’s atop the Ala Moana Hotel for presenters and key local representatives from Honolulu.

Logistics and Accommodations

Travel and lodging expenses for all presenters will be covered by the City/County of Honolulu.

Jennifer Russell, who is assisting with the Symposium, will be contacting you to facilitate your participation, including content discussion, presentation assistance, display coordination and travel needs. Jennifer can be reached at **808.566.2240**, or via email at **russellje@pbworld.com**.

Peer Review Session – November 14th

We are asking the Authority leaders – Mike, Nat, Jeff and Rick, to join the City/County staff and its consultants for a technical peer review session on the Honolulu High Capacity Transit Project the day after the Symposium. Please make plans accordingly. Toru Hamayasu and Mike Schneider will be in touch with you directly on the peer review program.